

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Masayuki FURUHASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2825

Serial Number: 10/695,650

Examiner: Victor V. Yevsikov

Filed: October 29, 2003

PTO Confirmation No.: 4075

For:

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE FABRICATION METHOD AND SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION CONTROL METHOD

Attorney Docket No.: 032077

Customer No.: 38834

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendments

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

May 18, 2004

Śir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Arguments/Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.